

*D* *Sub E* leading the thus coated substrates between a pair of belts of a low pressure double belt press; applying heat to fuse the coatings between the belts; smoothing the fused coatings between a pair of nipping rollers to provide a layer of desired thickness; and cooling the layer.

*N.E. previously canceled. See Amdt B*

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fused coatings are smoothed by leading the fused coatings between a nipping means.

*D2* *Sub E* 19. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 including the steps of: scattering a first thermoplastic material onto a first belt; applying the first substrate over the thermoplastic material, wherein said scattering of powder, granules or pellets onto a first substrate comprises scattering a second thermoplastic material onto the first substrate ; and further wherein said applying heat to the belts to fuse the coatings comprises fusing the thermoplastic material to form a backing layer on one face of the first substrate and a saturation or basecoat layer on the other face of the first substrate.

20. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the second thermoplastic material forms a saturation layer and the method includes the steps of: scattering a third thermoplastics material over the saturation layer; leading the substrates between a pair of belts; and

*D2 Sub 14* applying heat to the belts to fuse the third thermoplastic material to form a basecoat layer on the saturation layer.

*D3 Sub 14* 22. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrates are cooled, after fusing by leading the pair of belts through a cooling station.